

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

In re patent application of:	)	
-	)	Before the Examiner
Peter K. Herman et al.	)	
	)	
Serial No.: 09/939,160	)	
	)	Group Art Unit 1723
Filed August 24, 2001	)	
	)	
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R § 1.56 and 1.98, Applicant discloses the reference listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 12, 2001.

Charles P. Schmal and of Registered Representative

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Signature
October 12, 2001

Date of Signature

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This information has not been previously submitted in this application, and has not been heretofore cited by the Examiner. A copy of the cited item is enclosed in accordance with 37 C. F. R. §1.98 and is identified on an accompanying Information Disclosure Citation Form.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted before the receipt of a First Office Action on the merits and/or within three (3) months of the filing date for the application. Therefore, it is believed that no fee is due at this time.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted:

Bv/

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## PEORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION 8017-334 09/939,160 (se several sheets if necessary) Applicant Peter K. Herman 5 2001 Page 1 of 1 Filing Date Group August 24, 2001 1723 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** \*Examiner DOCUMENT Filing Date DATE NAME **CLASS** SUBCLASS NUMBER If appropriate Initial 3,784,092 01/1974 Gibson 233 20 1 19 2 3,791,576 02/1974 Bazil 233 5,795,477 08/1998 210 3 Herman et al. 360.1 4 5,906,733 05/1999 Purvey 210 100 5 6,019,717 02/2000 Herman 494 49 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation DOCUMENT NUMBER **SUBCLASS** DATE COUNTRY **CLASS** Yes No GB 2 297 505 RECEIVED TC 1700 08/1996 United Kingdom Examiner **Date Considered**

\*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in

conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Atty. Docket No.

Serial No.